

# **THE WASTE WATCHER**



**Fall 2003**

## **CATAWBA COUNTY'S ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY BRINGS IN A RECORD 523 PARTICIPANTS**

**by  
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Thank you for making Catawba County's Household Hazardous Waste Task Force collection on May 3 a huge success! Over 500 cars brought their hazardous household waste to the Government Center parking lot and made an environmentally sound decision.

The task force includes concerned citizens as well as members from, Catawba County Government, North Carolina Extension-Catawba County Center and local industry. The event was co-sponsored by Garbage Disposal Service. This was the fourth annual Household Hazardous Waste collection day. With 523 cars, there were 18.7% more participants than 2002. Over half of the participants this year had never participated in a Household Hazardous Waste Collection before.

This was the first time that electronics equipment such as televisions and used computers were collected. Participants brought in over 11,800 pounds of electronics proving that there is a great demand for recycling of electronics. Due to the high content of lead and other dangerous materials in electronics, it is very important that these items are properly disposed of. Other types of wastes collected include:

Lead Acid Batteries	9,230 lbs.
Alkaline Batteries	150 lbs.
Propane Cylinders	53 ea.
Nickel Cadmium Batteries	449 lbs.
Mercury Debris	8 lbs.
Lithium Batteries	4 lbs.
Mixed Solvents	20 drums (55 gal.)
Liquid Pesticides	4 drums (55 gal.)
Aerosols, Flammable	6 drums (55 gal.)
Pesticides/Herbicides Solid	3 drums (55 gal.)
Pool Chemicals	5 drums (55 gal.)
Paint Related Materials	8 3-yd containers
Electronics	11,827 lbs.

Catawba County has regular collection of used oil at all convenience sites as well as used anti-freeze and paint collection at the Blackburn facility. For more information, you may contact the Catawba Co. Department of Utilities and Engineering at 465-8621.

## **CITY OF HICKORY AND CATAWBA COUNTY TO HOST JOINT COLLECTION EVENT**

The City of Hickory and Catawba County will hold their first collection event inside the city's municipal boundaries on Saturday, November 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at L.P. Frans Stadium. This event will be executed in the same manner as the events held in May at the Government Center, with the addition of used tire collection. This is expected to be an annual event, allowing two opportunities, one in the spring and one in the fall for area residents to dispose of their household hazardous waste FREE of charge.

### **LEARN THE BASICS OF COMPOSTING**

Learn what you need to know to take advantage of nature's form of recycling!



Composting Classes will be held at the Agricultural Resources Center, at 1175 South Brady Avenue in Newton, on Wednesday, September 10, 2003 and Wednesday October 8, 2003. Both classes will run from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

The basics of backyard composting will be presented and these classes are free of charge! Call 465-8240 to reserve your space for this interesting class!

### **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Do you have a few extra hours a month? Do you want to make a difference in your community and your world? Are you interested in caring for the environment and educating others about good stewardship?

Then the Catawba County Household Hazardous Waste Task Force may be for you. To find out how you can get involved, call the Catawba County Utilities and Engineering Department at 465-8261.

## **CASH-4-KIDS**

### ***Did you know?***

Over 300,000,000 computer printer cartridges in North America alone are casually tossed into our landfills every year. If stacked end to end, there would be enough cartridges to circle our planet three times annually!

Cash-4-Kids offers a way for your organization to make money and recycle at the same time. It doesn't cost organizations, parents or neighbors any money. It recycles something that most of us already use at home and at work. All you need to do is donate your used printer cartridges to any participating school. The schools can then turn in the cartridges for cash! What a simple program!

The schools listed below are currently enrolled in the Cash-4-Kids program and have collection boxes located at their main buildings.

Bandys High School  
Children's Resource  
CenterClyde Campbell School  
Conover School  
Grandview Middle School  
Hickory Christian Academy  
Hickory High School  
JANB School in Newton  
Jenkins Elementary  
Longview Elementary  
Maiden High School  
Mill Creek Middle School  
Mountain View Elementary  
Newton Conover Middle School  
Oakwood Elementary PTO  
River Bend Middle School  
Shuford Elementary  
Southwest Elementary  
Thornton Elementary  
Tri-City Christian School  
Viewmont Elementary  
Walkin' Roll Activities League